

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/672,231

Examiner

Ronald W. Leja

Applicant(s)

CHAUDHRY, NISAR A.

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to IDS of 10/29/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-32.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/29/2003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Ronald W. Leja
Ronald W. Leja
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2836
2/20/04

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An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 10, line 2, change "second" to -- third --.

Claim 18, line 2, change "second" to -- third --.

Renumber the (second occurrence) of Claim 31 to read as Claim 32 so as to preserve numbering of claims under Rule 1.126. Therefore, on Page 26 of the claims, line 13, change "31." to -- 32. --.

The support for the changes to Claims 10 and 18 can readily be seen from the respective claim dependency and associated Figures. The changes do not affect the scope of the claims, but merely correct for minor errors, typographical in nature.

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance: Chaudhry (5,790,363) is the closest Prior Art, (a previous Patent of Applicant), essentially discloses the limitations found, most importantly within the Independent Claims, Claims 1, 15, 19, 21 and 23, with the exception of capacitors being connected in parallel with the PTCRs or TBUs. Beene (6,385,030) teaches transient protection in the same field of art, and wherein low signal losses in high frequency applications is desired. Figure 7 illustrates the use of a capacitor (C1) in parallel with a resistor (R3). Resistor (R3)

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is disclosed as being approximately 7 Ohms in value. Column 2, lines 20-39 disclose that it is known to utilize resettable fuse elements i.e. PTCRs for protection, but cause undesirable signal loss in the data transmission system at high frequency. It appears that Beene teaches away from PTCR use in the transient protection. Standler (4,586,104) teaches in Figure 7 the use of a PTCR in series with an inductor and the series combination in parallel with a capacitor; from Col. 7, lines 59-64, it appears that there is no strong motivation for removing just the inductor, leaving the PTCR in parallel with the capacitor. It is further noted that the PTCR is taught as having a range of 20 to 50 ohms at ambient temperature (thus before tripping). The range of Ohms also appears to the Examiner as substantial compared to the 7 ohms resistor taught by Beene, even if one were to ignore the teaching away from PTCR use. Hammer et al. (4,914,354) teach the use of a PTCR (36) in parallel with a capacitor (28). The PTCR passes initial current upon start-up of the lamp, until it heats-up, whereupon it trips to a high resistance and essentially couples the capacitor (28) into the line for power factor correction. It is the opinion of the Examiner that this is merely a normal start-up feature and not for overcurrent/overvoltage protection. From the discussion supra, It is the opinion of the Examiner that the claimed combinations found within the Independent Claims 1, 15, 19, 21 and 23 would not have been obvious in view of the Prior Art of Record, and as such, the claims are considered to be novel.


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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald W. Leja whose telephone number is (571)272-2053. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571)272-2800. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Ronald W. Leja
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2836

rwl
February 20, 2005

2/20/05